

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

JIM MCDONNELL, SHERIFF

December 10, 2015

Deputy Raquel Ramirez, [redacted]

Dear Deputy Ramirez:

You are hereby notified that it is the intention of the Sheriff's Department to discharge you from your position of Deputy Sheriff, Item No. 2708A, with this Department, effective the close of business December 8, 2015.

An investigation under IAB file number 2346853, conducted by Internal Affairs Bureau, coupled with your own statements, has established the following:

1. That in violation of the Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.05, General Behavior; and/or 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (pertaining to Penal Code 490.2, Petty Theft); and/or 3-01/030.07, Immoral Conduct; and/or 3-01/000.13, Professional Conduct – Core Values, on or about May 3, 2014, while off-duty, you were observed by Target security officers placing clothing in a shopping cart where your five year old [redacted] was sitting. Target security officers further observed your [redacted] conceal the items in a purse and/or a backpack in close proximity of you. You were also observed handing your [redacted] a stuffed animal and a packet of gum. Subsequently, you exited the store without paying for the clothing or any of the items you handed to your [redacted]. You were detained by store security, and eventually arrested by Whittier Police Department. On or about December 18, 2014, you were found guilty of Penal Code 490.2, Petty Theft by a jury trial and sentenced to thirty days in county jail, fined and were placed on 36 months of summary

probation. Your conduct has brought discredit and embarrassment upon yourself and/or the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/040.75, Making False Statements During Departmental Internal Investigation, on or about October 9, 2015, you made false, misleading and/or incomplete statements during an Internal Affairs Bureau investigation, as evidenced by but not limited to the following:

    a. making false statements as to not being aware of a stuffed animal (dog purse) and a packet of gum, in possession of your [redacted] and/or words to that effect, and/or;

    b. making false statements in regards to your involvement as to the 21 items of stolen clothing, and/or;

    c. making false statements by stating you were unaware of your five year old [redacted] concealing clothing, and/or words to that effect.

Additional facts for this decision are set forth in the Disposition Worksheet, Investigative Summary and Investigative Packet which are incorporated herein by reference.

You may respond to the intended action orally or in writing. In the event that you choose to respond orally to these charges, you have already been scheduled to meet with Chief Fender, on December 29, 2015, at 1000 hours, in his office, which is located at 450 Bauchet Street, Room E826, Los Angeles, California 90012. If you are unable to appear at the scheduled time and wish to schedule some other time prior to January 4, 2016, for your oral response, please call Chief Fender's secretary at (213) 893-5020, for an appointment.

If you choose to respond in writing, please call Chief Fender's secretary to cancel your scheduled appointment, and send your response to the facts contained in this letter to Chief Fender's office by no later than January 4, 2016.

Unless you are currently on some other type of authorized leave, pursuant to Rule 16.01 of the Los Angeles County Civil Service Commission Rules, effective immediately, you are on paid administrative leave which will continue during the fifteen (15) business days you have to respond to the intended discharge or until the conclusion of your pre-disciplinary hearing. If you are presently on an authorized leave, that leave will continue during the fifteen (15) business

days you have to respond to the intended discharge, or until the conclusion of your pre-disciplinary hearing.

Failure to respond to this Letter of Intent within fifteen (15) business days will be considered a waiver of your right to respond and will result in the imposition of the discipline indicated herein.

If you did not receive the investigative material on which your discipline is based at the time you were served with this correspondence, you may contact the Internal Affairs Bureau at (323) 890-5300, to obtain a copy of the case file.

The Sheriff's Department reserves the right to amend and/or add to this letter.

Sincerely,

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF

Donnie L. Mauldin, Captain
Internal Affairs Bureau

DLM:bs

cc: Advocacy Unit
Employee Relations Unit
David L. Fender, Chief, Custody Services Division – Specialized Programs
Internal Affairs Bureau
(File # IAB 2346853)

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COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

A Tradition of Service Since 1850

Disposition Worksheet

DATE: December 8, 2015
FILE: IAB #IV2346853

FROM: DAVID L. FENDER, CHIEF
CUSTODY SERVICES DIVISION
SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

TO: DONNIE L. MAULDIN, CAPTAIN
INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

SUBJECT: **RAQUEL RAMIREZ, [redacted]**
DEPUTY SHERIFF GENERALIST
CENTURY REGIONAL DETENTION FACILITY
CUSTODY SERVICES DIVISION SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS

Upon consideration of the facts developed in this investigation, I have determined that Subject Ramirez, shall be **discharged** for the reasons set forth in the attached documentation. This decision may be reconsidered based upon the employee's response.

David L Fender — 12/8/15
David L. Fender, Chief — Date

CASE REVIEWED BY PANEL MEMBERS:

RICHARD J. BARRANTES, ASSISTANT SHERIFF — Date: 12-8-15

TODD S. ROGERS, ASSISTANT SHERIFF — Date: 12/8/15

JACQUES A. LA BERGE, CHIEF — Date: 12/08/15

JIM McDONNELL, SHERIFF — Date: 12-8-15

Raquel Ramirez, [redacted]
Deputy Sheriff Generalist
Century Regional Detention Facility
Custody Services Division

The evidence in this case supports the following charges:

1. That in violation of the Manual of Policy and Procedures Sections 3-01/030.05, General Behavior; and/or 3-01/030.10, Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders (pertaining to Penal Code 490.2, Petty Theft); and/or 3-01/030.07, Immoral Conduct; and/or 3-01/000.13, Professional Conduct – Core Values, on or about May 3, 2014, while off-duty, Subject Ramirez was observed by Target security officers placing clothing in a shopping cart where her five year old [redacted] was sitting. Target security officers further observed Subject Ramirez' [redacted] conceal the items in a purse and/or a backpack in close proximity of Subject Ramirez. Subject Ramirez was also observed handing her [redacted] a stuffed animal and a packet of gum. Subsequently, Subject Ramirez exited the store without paying for the clothing or any of the items she handed to her [redacted] Subject Ramirez was detained by store security, and eventually arrested by Whittier Police Department. On or about December 18, 2014, Subject Ramirez was found guilty of Penal Code 490.2, Petty Theft by a jury trial and sentenced to thirty days in county jail, fined and was placed on 36 months of summary probation. Subject Ramirez' conduct has brought discredit and embarrassment upon herself and/or the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department.

2. That in violation of Manual of Policy and Procedures Section 3-01/040.76, Making False Statements During Departmental Internal Investigation, on or about October 9, 2015, Subject Ramirez made false, misleading and/or incomplete statements during an Internal Affairs Bureau investigation, as evidenced by but not limited to the following:

   a. making false statements as to not being aware of a stuffed animal (dog purse) and a packet of gum, in possession of her [redacted] and/or words to that effect, and/or;

   b. making false statements in regards to her involvement as to the 21 items of stolen clothing, and/or;

   c. making false statements by stating she was unaware of her five year old [redacted] concealing clothing, and/or words to that effect.

SUMMARY

On May 3, 2014, Subject Ramirez was arrested at Target for Burglary (Shoplifting) by the Whittier Police Department, for shoplifting over $410 worth of items (clothing). During the commission of the crime, she had her then, five year old [redacted] in the shopping cart. [redacted] was seen placing items in a backpack, and a purse belonging to Subject Ramirez. The theft was captured on Target's surveillance cameras. On

Raquel Ramirez, [redacted] **IV2346853**
Deputy Sheriff Generalist
Century Regional Detention Facility
Custody Services Division

December 18, 2014, Subject Ramirez was found guilty by jury of Section 490.2 of the Penal Code, Petty Theft. On Feburary 27, 2015, Subject Ramirez was sentenced to 30 days in county jail, fined and placed on summary probation for a period of 36 months.

On the date of her arrest, Subject Ramirez was observed (on camera) by security officers at Target, pushing a shopping cart, containing her then five year old [redacted] The video showed [redacted] sitting in the large basket portion of the shopping cart. As the security officers observed Subject Ramirez, they saw that she placed clothing in the shopping basket area where [redacted] was sitting and then [redacted] concealed the items in a purse and a backpack. As they further observed Subject Ramirez on camera, she went to the registers in front of the store, placed a few non-clothing items on the conveyer belt, then exited the store without paying for the clothing concealed in the bags which the child was sitting on.

Subject Ramirez was contacted outside of the store by Target's security and complied with their request to return inside the store. She was detained along with her [redacted] and was eventually contacted by Whittier Police Officer [redacted] During her detention, 21 items of adult clothing, in total, were recovered from Subject Ramirez' purse and her [redacted] backpack.

Subject Ramirez was interviewed at the Whittier Police Station by Officer [redacted] and denied stealing the clothing items found in the bags. She said that she did not notice her [redacted] had placed the stolen items in the bags while shopping.

In reviewing the video, it showed that Subject Ramirez did not pay for any items at the registers, including the items listed in the Whittier Police Department report. It also appeared that Subject Ramirez left the store without paying for the stuffed animal and the item she selected at register 12.

In her Internal Affairs Bureau interview, Subject Ramirez stated that the item she handed [redacted] at register 12 was in fact a package of gum. She said she did not pay for the gum because she forgot she gave it to her [redacted] and she was in a hurry. Subject Ramirez said she did not pay for the stuffed animal because she overlooked it.

Review of Applicable "Guidelines" for Discipline Assessment

The Department's Guidelines for Discipline list the following analogous misconduct with associated disciplinary penalties:

MPP Section 3-01/030.05;	General Behavior	- W/R to discharge
MPP Section 3-01/030.10;	Obedience to Laws, Regulations, and Orders (theft)	- Discharge
MPP Section 3-01/040.76;	Making False Statements During	- 25 days to discharge

Raquel Ramirez, [redacted]
Deputy Sheriff Generalist
Century Regional Detention Facility
Custody Services Division

Departmental Internal Investigation

MPP Section 3-01/050.30; Off Duty Conduct - W/R to discharge

MPP Section 3-01/000.13; Professional Conduct – Core Values - W/R to discharge

MPP Section 3-01/030.07; Immoral Conduct - W/R to discharge

Assessment of Mitigating and Aggravating Factors

Severity of Infraction

Subject Ramirez was arrested and convicted by a jury of Petty Theft. The misconduct is a serious matter, especially when committed by a sworn law enforcement member. Subject Ramirez' actions were duplicitous in nature. Using her child to commit theft demonstrated a significant flaw of moral character. Furthermore, her actions were the antithesis of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Core Values. The embarrassment and discredit Subject Ramirez' brought to the Department is inexcusable.

Misconduct that calls into question an employee's credibility and/or integrity could compromise a criminal prosecution in which the employee was involved and could expose the employee to being impeached if called to testify in the criminal trial.

The reputation of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department is based on the credibility and integrity of its employees. These traits are critical to earning the public's confidence and trust.

Subject Ramirez' ability to testify in court has been impacted because she was found to have committed a theft and made false statements during the criminal proceeding and internal affairs investigation. Therefore, Subject Ramirez' conduct in this case has resulted in the determination that she is no longer suitable for employment as a deputy sheriff, because the ability to testify in court is an essential job junction.

Intent, Truthfulness, and Acceptance of Responsibility

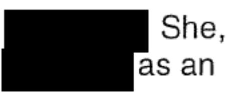
Subject Ramirez never accepted responsibility for her actions. Subject Ramirez' contention that the theft was solely her five year old [redacted] fault was immoral. Her assertion of being unaware of her child's actions when placing adult clothing in a backpack would have been irresponsible, had it not been clear that she was lying.

Upon reviewing the video surveillance, the investigators were able to interpret Subject Ramirez' actions of stepping away each time her child stuffed the backpack with more

clothing as clearly a way of validating her innocence should she been caught, which is exactly what she did.

Degree of Culpability

Subject Ramirez is solely responsible for her actions and that of her [redacted] She, alone made the decision to go into Target and use her five-year-old [redacted] as an instrument to steal.



The judge in the criminal proceeding found Subject Ramirez guilty and was troubled and/or disturbed by Subject Ramirez' actions of using her child to accomplish this theft.

Past Performance/Disciplinary History

[redacted]

Disposition

Based upon the foregoing assessment, the following is the recommended penalty, subject to revision upon receiving the subject's response or grievance:

___X___ **Discharge**

_______ Reduction in Rank

_______ Removal from Bonus

_______ Suspension with loss of pay and benefits for __ days.

_______ Written Reprimand

_______ No Discipline Recommended

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
PERSONNEL INVESTIGATION

DATE	No. OF SUBJECTS	UNIT(S) INVOLVED	I.A.B. FILE No.
10/26/2015	1	Century Regional Detention Facility	IV2346853

MANUAL SECTIONS ALLEGEDLY VIOLATED (BY TITLE AND No.)
3-01/030.05 - General Behavior, 3-01/030.10 - Obedience to Laws, Regulations and Orders
3-01/050.30 - Off Duty Conduct, 3-01/000.13 - Professional Conduct

DATE, TIME, DAY OF OCCURRENCE	RELATED URN FILE No. IF APPLICABLE
May 3, 2014, 1120 hours	

LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE: 10621 Carmenita Road, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90605

SOURCE OF COMPLAINT: ☐ COMMUNITY ☐ SUPERVISION W/C REPORT No. ____ ☒ OTHER SOURCES (SPECIFY) Whittier PD

SUBJECT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	RANK OR TITLE	EMP. No.
No. 1 OF 1	Ramirez	Raquel		Deputy	[redacted]

UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT	DATE ASSIGNED	DIVISION OR REGION
Century Regional Detention Facility	10/01/2006	Custody

STATUS OF SUBJECT: ☐ CONTINUING ON DUTY ☒ RELIEVED OF DUTY - REASSIGNED TO: Home ☐ OTHER ____

SEX	RACE	HAIR	EYES	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	D.O.B.	AGE
Female	Hispanic	Brown	Brown	504	140	[redacted]	38

DATE OF HIRE	DATE APPOINTED TO RANK	INTERVIEW AUDIO RECORDED, REFER TO:
01/12/2006	09/28/2006	JOB NUMBER 47850 DATE 10/09/2015 JOB NUMBER ____ DATE ____

PREVIOUS FOUNDED INVESTIGATIONS

DATE	I.A.B. FILE No.	MANUAL SECTION(S) VIOLATED	DISCIPLINE
		None	

SUBJECT	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	RANK OR TITLE	EMP. No.
No. OF					

UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT	DATE ASSIGNED	DIVISION OR REGION

STATUS OF SUBJECT: ☐ CONTINUING ON DUTY ☐ RELIEVED OF DUTY - REASSIGNED TO: ____ ☐ OTHER ____

SEX	RACE	HAIR	EYES	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	D.O.B.	AGE

DATE OF HIRE	DATE APPOINTED TO RANK	INTERVIEW AUDIO RECORDED, REFER TO:
		JOB NUMBER ____ DATE ____ JOB NUMBER ____ DATE ____

PREVIOUS FOUNDED INVESTIGATIONS

DATE	I.A.B. FILE No.	MANUAL SECTION(S) VIOLATED	DISCIPLINE

CODE: C - COMPLAINANT, W - WITNESS
ADDITIONAL COMPLAINANTS, WITNESSES, OR SUBJECTS ON SUPPLEMENTAL PAGES ☒ YES ☐ NO

CODE	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	SEX	RACE	D.O.B.
W No. 1 OF 1	Adler	Kelly		Female	White	Adult

RESIDENCE ADDRESS (CIVILIAN WITNESSES ONLY): Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department - Lieutenant
RES. PHONE (AREA CODE): ( ) N/A
BUSINESS ADDRESS OR UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT: Internal Affairs Bureau
CDL OR LASD EMPLOYEE NO.: [redacted]
BUS. PHONE (AREA CODE): (323) 890-5300
INTERVIEW AUDIO RECORDED, REFER TO: JOB NUMBER 47864 DATE 10/13/2015 JOB NUMBER ____ DATE ____

CODE	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	M.I.	SEX	RACE	D.O.B.
No. OF						

RESIDENCE ADDRESS (CIVILIAN WITNESSES ONLY):
RES. PHONE (AREA CODE): ( )
BUSINESS ADDRESS OR UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT:
CDL OR LASD EMPLOYEE NO.:
BUS. PHONE (AREA CODE): ( )
INTERVIEW AUDIO RECORDED, REFER TO: JOB NUMBER ____ DATE ____ JOB NUMBER ____ DATE ____

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR	RANK	EMP. No.	APPROVED	DATE
Patrick J. Mannion	Sergeant	[redacted]	CARRIZOSA SC	11-03-15

ASSISTING INVESTIGATOR	RANK	EMP. No.	DATE SUBMITTED
			10/26/2015

I.A.B. FILE No. IV2346853	PAGE 2 OF 2

NARRATIVE SHOULD BE AN OBJECTIVE AND UNBIASED STATEMENT OF THE FACTS; INVESTIGATOR OPINIONS SHALL NOT BE INCLUDED.

No. OF ITEMS	LIST EXHIBITS/EVIDENCE FIRST (IF STORED, STATE LOCATION - AUDIO TAPES SHOULD BE CLEARLY LABELED), THEN BEGIN NARRATIVE.
2	ADMINISTRATIVE RIGHTS FORMS. (ATTACH ONE FORM FOR EACH EMPLOYEE INTERVIEWED)
	AUDIO/VIDEO RECORDINGS. ALL INTERVIEWS SHALL BE AUDIO RECORDED AND ALL RECORDINGS MUST BE INCLUDED. (REFER TO AUDIO/VIDEO TRACKING SHEET)
☐	EVIDENCE HELD
	ITEM DESCRIPTION (INCLUDE LAB RECEIPT NUMBER):

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU SUMMARY
CASE #IV2346853

Subject:	**Raquel Ramirez, Deputy Sheriff** **Employee** [redacted] **Century Regional Detention Facility**
Date:	**May 3, 2014**
Time:	**1120 hours**
Location:	**Target (store)** [redacted]

SYNOPSIS

On May 3, 2014, Subject Ramirez was arrested at Target for Burglary (Shoplifting) by the Whittier Police Department, for shoplifting over $410 worth of items (clothing) (see **Exhibit A**). During the commission of the crime, she had her then, five year old [redacted] in the shopping basket, who was seen placing items in a backpack, and a purse belonging to Subject Ramirez. The theft was captured on Target surveillance cameras (see **Exhibit B**). On December 18, 2014, Subject Ramirez was found guilty by jury of 490.2 of the Penal Code, Petty Theft, and subsequently sentenced on February 27, 2015, to thirty days in the county jail, 36 months summary probation, and a fine (see sentencing documents and court transcripts in **Exhibits C and D**).

SUMMARY

Subject Ramirez was observed on camera by security officers at Target, on the day of her arrest, pushing a shopping cart, containing her then, five year old [redacted] through the store. The video showed [redacted] sitting in the large basket portion of the shopping cart. As the security officers observed Subject Ramirez, they saw that she placed clothing in the shopping basket area where [redacted] was sitting and then [redacted] concealed the items in a purse and a backpack. As they further observed her on camera, she went to the registers in front of the store, placed a few non-clothing items on the conveyer belt, then exited the store, without paying for the clothing concealed in the bags, which the child was sitting on (see Target Loss prevention reports/Whittier Police reports in **Exhibit A**).

Subject Ramirez was contacted outside of the store by Target security and complied with their request to return inside the store. She was detained along with her [redacted] and was eventually contacted by Whittier Police Officer [redacted] During her detention, twenty-one items of adult clothing, in total, were recovered from

her purse and her [redacted] back pack (see pictures taken by Whittier Police Department in **Exhibit B**).

Subject Ramirez was interviewed at the Whittier Police Station by Officer [redacted] and denied stealing the clothing items found in the bags. She said that she did not notice that her [redacted] had placed the stolen items in the bags while shopping (see interview in **Exhibit B**).

> **IAB Note:** Subject Ramirez was also confronted by Officer [redacted] about a stuffed animal that she handed to her [redacted] as they were shopping that she did not pay for. She did not remember handing the stuffed animal to her [redacted] This incident was captured by the Target surveillance camera and occurred approximately three minutes and twenty-eight seconds before leaving the store with the other stolen items.

Target Surveillance Video

Internal Affairs Bureau investigators observed the Target surveillance video provided by the Whittier Police Department regarding this incident. The video is approximately 11 minutes and 19 seconds in length and covers the time period from approximately 10:36 AM to 11:20 AM, with no video coverage of the subject between 10:36:08 AM until 11:09:12 AM.

- 10:36 AM - Subject Ramirez can be seen walking into Target with her [redacted]

- 11:09:27 AM – From an overhead surveillance camera, Subject Ramirez can be seen pushing a shopping cart into a part of the store that appears to display women's clothing. A small child [redacted] is seated in the large basket portion of the cart, and several clothing items are in the part of the shopping cart were the child should be seated.

- 11:09:32 AM – Subject Ramirez walks several feet away from the shopping cart, leaving her child in the cart. It appears the child is making motions with her hands and arms that indicate she is stuffing items (clothing) into a bag.

- 11:10:06 AM – Subject Ramirez returns to the shopping cart and begins tossing clothing items from the child seat of the shopping cart into the large part of the cart where [redacted] is seated. [redacted] begins stuffing clothes into the bags as Subject Ramirez walks away from the cart.

- 11:10:59 AM – Subject Ramirez begins to push the shopping cart as [redacted] continues to stuff clothing into a bag. Subject Ramirez appears to be looking toward the front of the basket as this is occurring.

- 11:11:26 AM – Subject Ramirez stands next to the basket and stares into the area where [redacted] is seated, and reaches into the basket moving a clothing item. She appears to then make a "pushing down motion" with her right hand into a bag she just unzipped.

- 11:11:37 AM – Subject Ramirez goes back to the shopping cart handles and pushes the cart out of the view of the camera.

- 11:13:24 AM – Subject Ramirez is seen on another camera shopping in a different part of the women's section of the store.

- 11:16:50 AM – Subject Ramirez can be seen grabbing and observing a stuffed animal hanging from a display. She then hands it to [redacted] and pushes the shopping cart out of the view of the camera.

- 11:19:14 AM – Subject Ramirez pushes the shopping cart to check stand 12, while [redacted] is holding onto the stuffed animal given to her previously by Subject Ramirez. Check stand 12 is closed, but Subject Ramirez appears to be looking at something on display, grabs an item that appears to resemble a pack of gum and hands it to [redacted] She then pushes the shopping cart back toward the area in front of the cash registers, inside the store.

- 11:19:51 AM – Subject Ramirez stops the shopping cart, with [redacted] still inside the main portion, in front of register 7. She then places three toy type items on the conveyer belt and proceeds to push the shopping cart past register 5, "high fiving" [redacted] and then proceeds past register 6 and out the front door of the store.

In reviewing the video, it showed that Subject Ramirez did not pay for any items at the registers, including the stolen items listed in the Whittier Police Department report. It also appeared that Subject Ramirez left the store without paying for the stuffed animal and the item she selected at register 12.

In her Internal Affairs Bureau interview, Subject Ramirez stated that the item she handed [redacted] at register 12 was in fact a package of gum. She said she did not pay for the gum because she forgot she gave it to her, and she was in a hurry. Subject Ramirez said she did not pay for the stuffed animal, because she overlooked it.

Court Testimony

Subject Ramirez testified on her behalf on December 17, 2014 (see **Exhibit D**). While under questioning from the Defense, she denied any knowledge of the stolen items and said she would not use her [redacted] to help her commit a theft. She said [redacted] was in the cart due to her behavior in the store and that her attention was not focused on [redacted] She was not able to see everything [redacted] was doing.

In regard to the items found in her purse and backpack, Subject Ramirez said only three of the items would have fit her. She said the part of the video that showed her putting her hand in her purse (11:11:26 AM of **Exhibit B**), was because she was checking for her wallet and that the lining of the purse was torn. She said there was a shirt inside her purse, and she took it out, and told [redacted] "Knock it off, [redacted] I don't have time for this."

> **IAB Note:** In her Internal Affairs Bureau interview, Subject Ramirez identified three items she said she was responsible for putting in the shopping cart. She initialed on the pictures next to those items (see **Exhibit E**).

Subject Ramirez said she did not have much time when she went to check out of the store and wanted to make sure she had ten or less items to get into the express lane. She said no express lanes were open and that she would not have time to check out, so she left her items (pool toys) on the conveyer belt and proceeded to walk out. Subject Ramirez did not believe there were any items in her purse or [redacted] backpack.

When she was detained, Subject Ramirez said the security officer opened up her purse and it "was stuffed like a lot." She was shocked when the security officer showed it to her and did not know what was inside.

Subject Ramirez said she was aware that Target had security cameras.

Subject Ramirez under cross examination by the District Attorney, said she had been to that particular Target over 300 times. Subject Ramirez was aware when she found the shirt in her purse that [redacted] had done something wrong, but did not put it back on the shelf, instead left it in the cart. She said before she checked out she had put everything back that she had planned to buy, on a shelf or rack. She said she did not inspect the shopping cart.

Subject Ramirez said that she (while shopping) handed her [redacted] a stuffed puppy and that the stuffed puppy left the store without being paid for. She said she did not see her [redacted] holding it.

> **IAB Note:** Surveillance video indicated that Subject Ramirez removed the stuffed puppy from a display and handed it to her [redacted] approximately three minutes and twenty-eight seconds before she left the store.

Subject Ramirez said she took various items from the seat of the shopping cart and put them in the part of the shopping cart [redacted] was sitting in. She said she saw [redacted] put these items back, but it was not visible on the video. She said she was pushing the cart when [redacted] was stuffing items in both a purse and a backpack, but did not see this occur because she was not focused on what [redacted] was doing.

> **IAB Note:** Target surveillance video appeared to show [redacted] while sitting in the large area of the shopping cart, stuffing clothing into bags inside of the cart. While this is occurring, Subject Ramirez is seen pushing the shopping cart. The video did not show [redacted] putting any items onto shelving or hanging up anything on a rack.

Subject Ramirez, when testifying under questioning from the District Attorney, agreed that as a Deputy Sheriff, she was trained to look at certain behaviors and identify certain crimes. She was also questioned about her current work assignment and her observation of inmates, particularly watching their hands. Subject Ramirez said she shut down her training when she was not working. When under questioning from her defense attorney, she did not consider herself a deputy sheriff when she was with her children or was off work.

> **IAB Note:** Subject Ramirez' badge and gun were in her personal vehicle in the Target parking lot.

On December 18, 2014, Subject Ramirez was found guilty of Petty Theft (490.2 PC). She was sentenced on February 27, 2015, to 30 days in the county jail, 36 months summary probation, a fine, and community service. During sentencing, Judge Richard M. Goul stated, "…I think i'ts pretty clear from the testimony and from the videotape that the defendant was using her child to accomplish this theft. And that, the court finds highly disturbing." (see pages 316-317 of **Exhibit D** for Judge Goul's comments and sentencing)

The following narratives are intended only as synopses of the interviews. Additional information and precise wording may be obtained by reviewing the audio recorded interviews and verbatim transcriptions.

Witness Lieutenant Kelly Adler

Witness Adler was interviewed on October 13, 2015.

Witness Adler stated that she relieved Subject Ramirez of duty at the Whittier Police Station. She retrieved Subject Ramirez' badge and gun from Subject Ramirez' [redacted] at the Target store parking lot. The gun and badge were in Subject Ramirez' vehicle.

Subject Raquel Ramirez

Subject Ramirez was interviewed on October 9, 2015, by Sergeant Patrick Mannion and Sergeant Delicia Hernandez of the Internal Affairs Bureau. She was represented by Audra Call from the law offices of Green and Shinee. Subject Ramirez stated that she received her court transcripts concerning her court room testimony and that the

testimony she gave was truthful. She said the court transcripts (**Exhibit** D) were true, accurate, and correct and that there was nothing she wanted to add, modify, or take back. Subject Ramirez said she was found guilty of theft by jury.

> **IAB Note:** Subject Ramirez testified on her own behalf on December 17, 2014, in Department SE-4, under case #4BF02604.

Subject Ramirez was afforded the opportunity to tell what happened regarding this incident and stated that on May 3, 2014, she went to the Target on [redacted] in the city of Whittier, with her five year old [redacted] She had a facial and eyelash appointment at the "Skin Room" in Whittier, at 12:00 pm (noon), but because her two [redacted] were picking on [redacted] she took her with her and went to Target around 10:45 am or 11:00 am. She said she had some "time to kill," and as long as she left Target before 11:30 am she would get to her skin appointment on time.

> **IAB Note:** Target surveillance video indicated Subject Ramirez entered Target at 10:36 am with her [redacted]

Subject Ramirez said she went to the dollar section and picked out a few things for the pool, then went to the swim suit section. [redacted] was running around and rearranging some swim suits, and she told [redacted] to stay by her before this had occurred. Subject Ramirez said she "threw" [redacted] in the back of the (shopping) cart and kept looking (shopping). As she shopped she was price matching items and when she did not want something [redacted] would put it back for her.

Subject Ramirez said they were looking for a register, but a "10 item or less" register was not open so she got in another line. She decided she could not wait in a long line so she decided to put her stuff (pool toys) on a conveyer belt and left the store. She was stopped by someone (security guard) who she thought was selling something, and she told him she was in a hurry. A uniformed loss prevention person contacted her as well and asked her if there was anything in her bag that should not be there and she said no.

Subject Ramirez said the loss prevention officer took her bags and said, "What's this, what's this," and pulled clothing out of her purse. When she saw this she said, "Oh bugs," because that is what she calls [redacted] She said the loss prevention officer told her that they knew she had told [redacted] to put the clothing in the bag, but she denied this and said it was a misunderstanding. She was told they had video of her putting stuff in her bag and she told them this was not true and wanted to see the video.

Subject Ramirez said she was shown a video and could see [redacted] running around in the swim suit section of the store and told the officer that was why her [redacted] was in the shopping cart. She was shown video of her reaching in her bag and she told him she was searching for her wallet. She was shown another video clip and was accused of giving [redacted] clothes and telling her to put them in a bag. She again denied this and told them to ask [redacted] Subject Ramirez said the loss prevention officer spoke to [redacted]

and [redacted] told them Subject Ramirez did not tell her to put stuff in the bag and that Subject Ramirez had told her to put it back.

Subject Ramirez said the loss prevention officer asked her why she was not paying attention to [redacted] She told him she could see her in the basket and did not have to watch her. She said she told him she saw [redacted] put stuff back.

Subject Ramirez said she told loss prevention that [redacted] is referred to as a bag lady, because she likes back packs, purses, and puts her baby dolls, clothing, and hair stuff into the bags to where they can hardly be zippered. She said if something goes missing, [redacted] probably would have it in one of her bags, and wants you to ask for it. She said [redacted] had never done this in a store and told the loss prevention officer she was an off duty deputy.

Subject Ramirez said a Whittier Police Officer came to the location and introduced himself, and asked her where she worked and what her captain's name was. She was told to call someone to pick up her [redacted] and that she was going to be cited out at the station. She was transported to the Whittier Police Station and said she was arrested for grand theft and contributing to the delinquency of a minor.

> **IAB Note:** Whittier Police Report 2014-00901478 indicated that Subject Ramirez was arrested for 459PC – Shoplift Burglary (see **Exhibit A**).

Subject Ramirez believed she had been shopping at Target for half an hour or less and went there to just look around. She said she did not pay for anything and when she was detained, they removed a "ball" of clothing from her purse. She did not know these items were in her purse and did not leave with any other items she did not pay for that day. When asked if [redacted] carried a stuffed animal outside that belonged to Target, she said, "Well, we didn't make it out the door, but she did have a stuffed animal with her and when I was going --." She said she had been detained at the door where the sensors where at and then said she did not remember if she was outside.

> **IAB Note:** Target surveillance video indicated that Subject Ramirez walked past the security sensors and out the door at 11:20:17 am.

Subject Ramirez said toward the end of their shopping, she gave [redacted] a stuffed animal (Dog purse) and that [redacted] still had it when they were detained. She did not intend on buying it for [redacted] and gave it to her to be quiet. She said [redacted] had asked for it, calling it her "doggie," so she handed it to her until they left, and was relying on [redacted] to put it back because she told her she had to. When asked if [redacted] (five years old) understood she was supposed to put it back, Subject Ramirez said, "Yes, oh, yeah. She knows. She knows how to shop, like---."

Subject Ramirez said she handed [redacted] some gum she intended on buying right before they left the store. She said she did not pay for that item, but said "No" when asked if

she left the store without paying for it. She said she did not ensure that [redacted] put the gum back because she did not tell [redacted] to put it back.

> **IAB Note:** After being shown the Target surveillance video, Subject Ramirez said she did not pay for the gum. She said she forgot she gave the gum to [redacted] because she was in a hurry. Target surveillance showed that Subject Ramirez handed the gum to [redacted] approximately 46 seconds before leaving the store. She denied being nervous about anything that was in the backpack or purse.

Unit Order #61 was read into the record and Subject Ramirez was shown the surveillance video contained in **Exhibit B,** and her interview with Whittier Police Officer [redacted] contained in **Exhibit B**. Subject Ramirez said the video shown to her was shown in court, except for the interview with the Whittier Police Officer. She said her attorney had gone over the Whittier PD interview before her trial.

Subject Ramirez said the distance from Target to her appointment was probably 10-15 miles. She said the location was in Whittier and it was called the Skin Room. She said she had never been there and did not want to be late, because she would have to pay full price if she missed the appointment or was late.

> **IAB Note:** Subject Ramirez testified in court that the Skin Room was approximately 3 miles from the Target (see page 210 in **Exhibit D**).

Subject Ramirez said [redacted] put the clothes in the backpack and the purse, but she had told [redacted] to put those items back. She said there was video shown to her by the Target loss prevention officer, which showed [redacted] putting other clothes back on the shelves and hanging them up as they shopped. She said this part of the video was not shown in court.

Subject Ramirez was asked about the clothing she was tossing to her [redacted] in the shopping cart (see **Exhibit B** at the 11:10:07 am mark). She did not intend on buying those items and was saying, "Put this back, put these back, these go back." (see page 24 of Subject Ramirez transcribed interview) She explained if she was to put these items back herself, [redacted] would tell her, "Mommy, I do, I said I do it." She was not expecting [redacted] to put the clothes back in a specific location, just somewhere in the store. She said the black shirt or dress that she kept in the child seat area, draped over the seat, would have been one of the items she was going to buy, or was thinking about buying. She did not intentionally put it there so she could not see what her [redacted] was doing.

> **IAB Note:** Subject Ramirez, later in her interview (page 31), said she was not really talking to [redacted] but was more talking to herself saying, "I'm not going to take this, not going to take this, this maybe." When asked if she specifically told [redacted] to put the items back, Subject Ramirez said, "No, I

don't have to. She already knows. Like if I say, 'Not taking this, not going to take this,' or if I handed it to her, then she knows to put it back."

IAB Note: 21 items of clothing were indicated as stolen/recovered in the Whittier Police Department report. Of those 21 items, Subject Ramirez said she intended on buying some of the items, like a sun dress and a black top (see pictures in **Exhibit B**).

Subject Ramirez said she entered the store with her purse and [redacted] backpack. She said her purse contained her makeup bag, wallet, phone, keys, [redacted] cell phone, [redacted] Gameboy, juices, snacks, and a toy. She described her purse as being an approximately 14 x 8 x 8 in size, and said with all those items, she still had room in her purse, although "Not too much."

Subject Ramirez was asked about her court transcripts and her finding a shirt inside her purse and telling [redacted] to "Knock it off" (see **Exhibit D**, page 225). She said a shirt was hanging out of the lining of her bag and she saw this when she looked for her wallet. She said she told [redacted] "Knock this shit off, [redacted] like knock it off." She believed [redacted] was being silly, trying to get her attention, or was trying to make her mad. She said she did not tell [redacted] put it in there and this did not raise a "red flag." She did not remember looking for the other items she tossed in the basket.

Subject Ramirez was asked about the video (11:16:34 am) where she handed [redacted] a stuffed animal (dog purse). She did not remember seeing [redacted] holding the purse as they went to the registers and that she just was not focused on what [redacted] was holding. When asked how the purse got outside without being paid for, she said [redacted] had it on [redacted] arm, and had it like that until [redacted] dad picked her up.

It was pointed out to Subject Ramirez that she handed [redacted] the purse three minutes and twenty-eight seconds before she left the store. Subject Ramirez said it did not slip her mind that she needed to pay for the item and that she just overlooked it. She said it was her responsibility to pay for the purse.

Subject Ramirez said the purse and gum were not rewards to [redacted] for [redacted] helping steal items from Target. She said that even the loss prevention people overlooked the purse when [redacted] had it, and said she did not focus on the little stuff and was in a hurry.

Subject Ramirez said she did not have her gun with her inside Target and said it was at home. When told that her [redacted] retrieved her gun from her vehicle at Target, and gave it to Witness Adler, Subject Ramirez said she was unaware of this.

IAB Note: Subject Ramirez, when testifying under questioning from the District Attorney, agreed that as a Deputy Sheriff, she was trained to look at certain behaviors and identify certain crimes. She was also questioned about her current work assignment and her observation of inmates, particularly watching their hands. Subject Ramirez said she shut down

her training when she was not working. When under questioning from her defense attorney, said she did not consider herself a deputy sheriff when she was with her children or was off work (see page 246 of Subject Ramirez transcribed court testimony in **Exhibit D**).

Subject Ramirez was asked about her court room testimony in regards to her statement about being off duty. Subject Ramirez explained that the line of questioning from the District Attorney, was why she was not watching [redacted] and watching [redacted] hands. She explained that she does not consider her family as criminals and she does not think of them like that. She does not watch their (family) every move and then said, "…I'm mom. I'm mom, I'm soft, I'm everything I'm not at work."

Subject Ramirez said she did not take any narcotics or prescription drugs and did not drink (Alcohol) (see transcribed interview page 48).